

Amendments to the Abstract

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

~~Disclosed is a~~ A connecting device ~~for joining~~ joins a first workpiece that is provided with an interior space, particularly a bar-type hollow profiled member, to another such workpiece by a screw or similar element, the shank of which penetrates an opening of the workpiece and can be inserted into an opposite element within the interior space. The shank of the clamping screw penetrates a sleeve of the connecting device, which is fixed within a longitudinal groove of one workpiece such that a threaded area of the clamping screw protrudes beyond the face of the workpiece and is provided with a screw head at a distance therefrom. The screw head is ~~embodied so as to be able~~ to be inserted into an undercut longitudinal groove of the other workpiece. The sleeve is removably fastened within the longitudinal groove of the workpiece and is connected thereto by a groove/spring system that runs perpendicular to the longitudinal axis (A) thereof.